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Oldenbroek Asserts Europe Will Fight Soviets

Washington.—Europe's free nations will fight communist Russian aggression if the Soviet moves against them.

This was the quiet assurance not of a politician or state chief executive but of the spokesmen for the millions of men and women who will have to fight if Russia tries to engulf western Europe.

The pledge was given by J. H. Oldenbroek, general secretary of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, during a visit here on his way back to Brussels from the Mexico City meeting of the ICFTU.

He said in a statement:

"The ICFTU has no army but if there is a war, it will be the members of the trade unions affiliated with the ICFTU who will be in that army.

"Our will in Europe to fight barbaric dictatorship is as strong as it was once when the nazis were on the march and our faith in democracy is undeviating. We welcome Gen. Eisenhower and support his mission. We believe that this mission has already strengthened the democratic forces in their search for peace and freedom.

"This I can say in the name of the major free trade union organizations from 60 countries affiliated with the ICFTU and their 51 million members.

"Our next engagement in the trade unions' battle for freedom will be in Karachi in May where the ICFTU has called an important conference of Asiatic trade unionists.

"We are already functioning in that embattled area and formal organization will occur at that time. There where an Asiatic iron curtain threatens the free peoples, our fight is not only against Soviet infiltration but against the poverty of the Asiatic masses.

"To strengthen democracy in Asia, we must wipe out starvation and disease and illiteracy and we must do this by working through the democratic forces in Asia. Your Point Four, the British Colombo Plan, are major weapons in democracy's arsenal and we hope these programs will be effectuated on a bold scale at the earliest possible moment. Starving people are first interested in bread—or rice—not ideology.

"Constructive democratic planning for the immediate relief of these hungry people combined with long-range economic programs, support and recognition of free trade unions will enable the free world to win—as it must in Asia—new allies in our fight for survival."

Mr. Oldenbroek said he believed the Mexico City conference of the ICFTU "sounded the death knell of Lombardo Toledano, Stalin's gauleiter, below the Rio Grande."

"The trade union movements in South and Central America, aided by the AFL, CIO, Canadian Trades and Labor Congress, Canadian Congress of Labor, are determined to exterminate totalitarian influence — whether Stalinist, Peronist or Falangist."

MEANY BLOCKED HIM.—Mexico City.—AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany (left) blocked Fidel Velasquez (right), secretary Confederation of Mexican Workers and chairman Western Hemisphere conference of International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, when he attempted to seat fascist-controlled Argentine delegation. All nations except Mexico backed Mr. Meany. Mr. Velasquez resigned.

Inter-American Workers Name Peruvian Head

(Special Correspondence to AFL News Service)

Mexico City.—Some 17 million Americans—North, South and Central Americans, that is—now belong to a single labor organization.

Delegates from 20 nations joined together Jan. 12 to form a new hemisphere-wide labor body — the Inter-American Regional Organization of Workers. It's a branch of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

George Meany, secretary-treasurer of the AFL, was elected a member of IROW's 5-man executive committee. Mr. Meany is one of the men responsible for turning the dream for a large hemisphere labor group into a reality. His deputy for the post is Percy Bengough of the International Association of Machinists and of the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress.

Elected to the 31-man regional council were Mr. Meany and AFL Vice President Matthew Woll, president of the AFL Photo Engravers' Union. Deputies for these posts are Serafino Romualdi, AFL Latin American representative, and George Delaney, AFL international representative.

Mr. Bengough of the Canadian TLC was also named to the council. His substitute is Claude Jodoin of the AFL International Ladies Garment Workers Union, vice president of the TLC.

Other U. S. labor leaders named to both the executive committee and the regional council are President Jacob Potofsky of the CIO Clothing Workers and President John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers.

The president of the Peru Confederation of Workers, Arturo Sabroza, was elected IROW president. The job of full-time secretary went to Francisco Aguirre of Cuba. Both are veteran campaigners in the fight for free trade unionism. The 55-year-old Sabrosa, founder of the Textile Union in Peru, recently spent 18 months in jail during a wave of anti-unionism in his home country. IROW headquarters will be in Havana, Cuba.

One of the significant features of the 5-day conference was the teamwork of the AFL, CIO and Mine Worker delegations. This teamwork foiled the repeated attempts made by Pro-communists and pro-fascists to sabotage not only the meeting but also the new organization. It turned back the attempt to seat the pro-fascist Argentine Confederation of Labor.

"The AFL delegates to the conference will under no circumstances agree to the admission of the CGT," Mr. Meany protested.

"To take any other position would be tantamount to a betrayal of the vast number of Argentinian workers who believe in free trade unionism and who are denied the right to maintain trade union organizations.

"These workers are held in practical slavery through the domination of their affairs by the CGT, which is not a trade union in fact, but is in reality an instrument of a fascist government that can be put in the same class as Hitler's labor front and the so-called trade unions of Russia."

The conference voted overwhelmingly to exclude the Argentine CIT.

Fidel Velasquez, president of CTM, also resigned as chairman of the conference, after his pro-Argentine move was rebuffed by the delegates.

The delegates unanimously asked the CTM to come back to the IROW family. In the last hours of the conference, CTM representatives again displayed their former friendliness and announced their intention to "cooperate with" IROW.

WAGE CONTROLS WON'T WORK.—Washington.—United Labor Policy Committee tells Wage Stabilization Board it doesn't have the authority required to administer wage controls and they can't be put into effect under the present "cruelly deceptive" Defense Production Act which fails to control the cost of living. L. to r., co-chairmen of committee which met with U. S. officials, AFL Vice President George M. Harrison, Machinists President Al Hayes. Wage Board Chairman Cyrus S. Ching. CIO President Philip Murray, Railway Labor Executives President George E. Leighty.

Sales Tax Needless Woll Tells Truman

1951 Union Show Will Be Held

Washington.—Ray F. Leheney, director AFL Union Industries Show sponsored by the Union Label Trades Department, stated that any rumors to the effect that there will not be a 1951 labor-management exhibition are unfounded and untrue.

Until the President of the United States issues an order declaring that there will be no trade shows during the emergency the show will go on, Mr. Leheney said. It will be held at Soldier Field, Chicago, Ill., May 18 through 26.

Executive Council Studies Economic, Legislative Issues

Miami, Fla.—Failure of the government's stabilization program to halt the rising costs of living and the legislative issues before Congress headed the busy agenda of the mid-winter meeting of the executive council of American Federation of Labor.

The meeting here was scheduled to start Jan. 22 and run for 10 days to 2 weeks.

Heads of departments were summoned for the important conferences and preparation of statements on the top issues placed before Congress by President Truman in his series of messages on the state of the union, economic report and budget.

AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany, who headed the U. S. delegation to the Mexico City meeting of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, was expected to make a report on that parley.

Among other top issues are the failure of the government to place labor officials in policy-making positions of the national defense effort; administration tax policies; foreign policy; political activities.

TAKES WASHINGTON POST

Champaign-Urbana, Ill. — Dorothy Dowell, of the University of Illinois Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations, has joined the education staff of the International Association of Machinists in Washington, D. C.

For the past three years Miss Dowell has been editor of the Institute and instructor in labor and industrial relations and extension. She has also conducted the annual conferences for labor journal editors, and directed production of the new institute film strip, "Public Relations for Labor."

New York. — The government doesn't need a sales tax to meet defense expenses.

The tax policy of the country is already working undue hardship on taxpayers in the low income groups.

These points were set out by AFL Vice President Matthew Woll, chairman AFL Committee on Taxation, in letters to President Truman, Secretary of Treasury John W. Snyder, Sen. George and Rep. Doughton, chairmen of Senate Finance and House Ways and Means Committees.

"Members of our organization feel strongly that the over-all direction of tax policy at all levels of government since World War II has combined with other economic factors to work to the disadvantage of taxpayers in the low income group," Mr. Woll told Mr. Truman.

He told Mr. Snyder:

"We sincerely hope that press reports that you are considering adoption of any type of additional taxes on consumers, either through a federal sales tax or a manufacturer's excise tax, are untrue."

Copies of his letter went to Sen. George and Rep. Doughton. Mr. Woll said also:

"Members of the American Federation of Labor are aware that the need for increased tax revenue to finance the defense program must involve greater sacrifice on the part of all sections of the American people. However, up to this point we feel that unnecessary sacrifice in the tax field has been demanded at the expense of the standard of living of millions of low income workers.

"Specifically we believe this discrimination has resulted from the following developments:

"1. War-imposed 'emergency' excise taxes have been retained and extended.

"2. State and locally imposed taxes on consumption and sales have been increased.

"3. Federal income tax legislation has given preferred status to family income above $5,000 level because of split income provision.

"4. The estate and gift tax laws have been made virtually ineffective as substantial revenue producers through amendment.

"5. Few, if any, of the proposals made by the Treasury to Congress to close up tax loopholes that would result in substantial revenue increases have been enacted into law.

"6. Increase in cost of living of from 35 percent to 40 percent since the high point of war-imposed taxation was reached in 1945 combine with first bracket personal income tax rates to depress living standards particularly in the income groups below $3,000.

"It is our considered opinion that all additional revenue required at this time can be raised through continued dependence on equitably imposed taxes on income—personal and corporate, through revision of taxes—estates and gifts, and through closing all loopholes in existing legislation without the necessity of recourse to sales taxes.

"Moreover, in the framing of necessary tax measures we are satisfied that the prime objectives of raising revenue and checking inflation can be achieved without depressing the living standards of any section of the American people below the level of decency. In our opinion, this is being done at the present time, when the combined impact of federal, state and local tax systems together with current high prices is taken into account."

CONNOLLY APPOINTED

Washington. — Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin appointed William L. Connolly, director U. S. Bureau of Labor Standards, as chairman of the Federal Safety Council. He takes over his new assignment in addition to his present duties.

Marshall Thanks United Labor Chiefs For Help in National Emergency

Washington.—Secretary of Defense George C. Marshall told members of the United Labor Policy Committee that he appreciated organized labor's pledge of cooperation in the national defense emergency.

He promised to keep labor chiefs fully informed about policies and to keep dislocation of the civilian economy to the minimum.

The United Labor Policy Committee pledge and General Marshall's response came at a luncheon at the Pentagon.

"No group has more at stake in our efforts to keep freedom strong in the world than the working men and women of this country," Secretary Marshall said. "The survival of free labor organizations and all other democratic institutions depends on our success in checking the growth of police states and communist plans of aggression.

"It is gratifying to me to have your pledge of cooperation in our efforts to increase the strength and effectiveness of our armed forces. It is my desire to keep you fully informed as to the policies we are following and to cooperate in making certain that our policies do not cause more dislocation of the civilian economy than is inescapable in the gigantic effort that is so plainly necessary."

The United Labor Policy Committee, representing the AFL, CIO, International Association of Machinists and Railway Labor Executives Association, pledged full cooperation to Secretary Marshall in his efforts to increase the strength and effectiveness of the armed forces of this country. Speaking for 15 million American trade unionists, the committee members renewed labor's support of the nation's struggle against totalitarian imperialism.

Testimonial Dinner For Pat Gorman To Aid 'City of Hope' Fight on TB

New York.—A nationwide testimonial dinner in honor of Secretary-Treasurer Patrick E. Gorman of the AFL Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America is being tendered to him by the entire meat and dairy industry management and labor at the Waldorf Astoria, Feb. 26, 1951.

Earl W. Jimerson, international union president, has accepted honorary chairmanship of this dinner, the proceeds of which will go towards the building of a butcher's pavilion at the City of Hope (Los Angeles Sanatorium).

This hospital wing will take care of those needy union brothers and sisters who become ill with the dread disease of tuberculosis and cancer of the lung. Also contemplated is the opening of a 100-bed cancer hospital next year, where free treatment for this affliction will be given.

The organized labor movement has played a major role in establishing and maintaining the City of Hope as a haven for low-income families suffering from these diseases.

Among the unions supporting this national, free, non-sectarian medical center are the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union, International Ladies Garment Workers Union, Bakery and Confectionery Workers International Union, Hat, Cap and Millinery Workers Union, and the Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union. The Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America is now joining hands with these other progressive segments of the labor movement in building this monument to the butchers' union at the City of Hope.

Among the officers of the Patrick E. Gorman Dinner Committee are Joseph Belsky, general chairman, New York; Max Novak, vice chairman, Chicago; Burnett Kelly, treasurer, Chicago; M. S. Maxwell, San Francisco; T. J. Lloyd, Denver; Marvin W. Hook, St. Louis; Harry Poole, Philadelphia; Joseph Henderson, San Francisco; Ray F. Wentz, St. Paul; Sam Twedell, Sioux Falls, and Roy Scheurich, Louisville, all of them regional chairmen.

PATRICK E. GORMAN

New York.—Secretary-Treasurer AFL Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workers will be honored at testimonial dinner here Feb. 26, proceeds to be used for City of Hope Hospital, Los Angeles.

AID CITY OF HOPE—Chicago.—Comedian Red Skelton and other celebrities join in a giant television marathon show Jan. 20 for the new cancer research treatment center of City of Hope Hospital, Los Angeles. Cheering Skelton on are, l. to r., Vice President Emmett Kelly, President Earl W. Jimerson, AFL Meat Cutters; Kermit Haber, midwest regional director, and William Ingram, business men's committee chairman for City of Hope; Stanley L. Johnson, secretary-treasurer Illinois Federation of Labor; Max Novak, executive board member Meat Cutters, and, in front, Models Kathleen Hintz and Polly Sharkey.

Governors to Seek Better Labor Laws

Washington.—Governors in many states have asked their legislative bodies to pass laws beneficial to labor.

Michigan's Democratic Gov. G. Mennen Williams outlined one of the most ambitious programs. He asked the Republican-controlled legislature for a corporation profits tax (probably 2 percent), an FEPC program, higher unemployment and workmen's compensation benefits, and civil defense.

Gov. Forrest Smith, in his message to the 1951 Missouri Legislature, saw "an excellent opportunity to reduce unemployment compensation taxes" and increase maximum benefits to $25 a week for 24 weeks.

Massachusetts' Gov. Paul A. Dever again demanded a 75-cent minimum wage law to cover the thousands in the state who do not come under federal law. He also called for passage of a state cash sickness insurance fund for workers.

In Vermont, Gov. Lee E. Emerson asked a law to cover occupational hazards and a change in the unemployment compensation law so that an employer's rate is not changed unless a dismissed employe has worked for him a certain period of time.

Urging a minimum wage law in North Carolina Gov. W. Kerr Scott told the legislature that many workers in North Carolina receive less than 50 cents an hour and that "healthy citizenship cannot be sustained on that kind of income."

Gov. Luther W. Youngdahl, of Minnesota, asked for a recodification of the state workmen's compensation act which hasn't been touched since 1913.

Rhode Island's new governor, Dennis J. Roberts, called for a state 75-cent minimum wage law, the prohibition of restraining orders in strikes, and broadening of the state unemployment compensation program.

Watch Your Step: Job Accidents Up

Washington.—Work-injury rates in manufacturing have shown a constant upward trend during the first 3 quarters of 1950.

The U. S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the average injury-frequency rate for manufacturing industries was 2 percent higher in the first quarter of 1950 than in the fourth quarter of 1949. The rate for the second quarter of 1950 was 4 percent above that for the first, and that for the third was 11 percent above the second.

This upward movement of injury rates during the first 9 months of 1950 represents a complete reversal of the downward trend which prevailed during the previous 3 years.

Although the rate for the first quarter of 1950 was 11 percent below that for the corresponding period in 1949, the rate for the third quarter was 3 percent above that for the same period of last year.

This increase in injury rates appears to reflect the rising employment, lengthened work-week, and intensified industrial operations which were associated with the increased civilian production during the first half of the year and defense preparation during the third quarter.

Over 100,000 workers in manufacturing establishments were disabled for one or more days because of work injuries experienced during the third quarter of 1950. This was an increase of 15 percent over the estimate for the second quarter, and 18 percent over that for the third quarter of 1949. Of the total number disabled, over 400 died as a result of their injuries and 5,400 others are known to have suffered some permanent body impairment.

Approximately 2 million man-days were lost during the quarter as a result of these injuries. The value of wage losses alone amounted to approximately $20 million. This estimate, however, makes no allowance for the continuing economic losses arising out of the many deaths and permanent impairments, or for hospital, medical and other costs incidental to the treatment of these injuries.

SIGN WITH UP

New York.—Division 47 AFL Commercial Telegraphers Union has signed a 2-year contract with the United Press calling for a $4 weekly raise in the basic wage rate.

The division's 250 members service UP telegraph-printer machines carrying news across the nation. They have had a contract with UP since 1905 and struck for the first time last summer when they were out five weeks over contract differences.

??? For Doctors: How Do We Pay?

Washington.—The League Reporter, published by AFL Labor's League for Political Education, asks editorially for the American Medical Association to produce a better plan for meeting medical bills among working people than national health insurance—if the AMA has one.

The Reporter said:

The doctors' lobby, the American Medical Association (AMA), fights a purely negative battle.

It is against national health insurance, which it labels "socialized medicine." It has teamed with the realty lobby to fight public housing. It has teamed with the insurance lobby to fight disability insurance in the social security laws. It has teamed with the private utility lobby to fight public power.

But what the public wants from the doctors is an answer to such questions as these:

How can I pay the doctors' bills for a long illness—leukemia, for instance —of my child?

How can I pay the hospital bills for an accident—the loss of a leg, for instance—to myself?

The American people are not fooled by double talk. They want specific answers to specific problems.

They want to be able to pay for their illness and accidents themselves. They don't want a poorhouse system whereby they have to depend on charity. And they don't want to have to use up the savings of a lifetime.

The best way to guarantee that they can pay their own way is through a system of national health insurance. If there is a better answer the AMA should come forth with it instead of damning, attacking and criticizing.

Gompers Named One of World's Great Leaders in First Half of Century

New York.—Samuel Gompers, AFL founder and first president, was listed among the world's "great men of the half-century" in a poll of scholars and editors conducted by "Year," an annual review of current history.

The poll, conducted for "Year's" special mid-century edition, which has a foreword by Charles Seymour, president emeritus of Yale University, placed Gompers with Presidents Woodrow Wilson and Franklin D. Roosevelt, Scientist Albert Einstein, Philosopher John Dewey, Inventor Thomas Edison, Industrialist Henry Ford, Missionary Albert Schweitzer, Winston Churchill, Stalin and Mahatma Gandhi.

It credits Gompers with having led labor's "uphill battle" for recognition.

The "Year's" mid-century edition, which is a text-and-photograph record of the first half of the twentieth century, contains, on facing pages, two pictures of topical interest.

One is of President William Howard Taft with his son Robert A., now Senator Taft and coauthor of the Taft-Hartley Act.

The other shows Gompers with Robert M. LaFollette. The text notes that LaFollette was a leader of the Progressive Republican rebellion against the older Taft, and that Gompers "fought use of federal court injunctions to break strikes by opposing Taft's 1908 election."

Social Security Cards Available

Washington. — The Social Security Administration says that of the 10 million people newly covered by social security in 1951, many have never had social security cards and are not sure how to get them.

The answer is: get your card at the nearest social security office. If there's no social security office in your town, you can get an application blank at your post office, fill it out and mail it to the nearest social security office. If you don't know the address you can get it at the post office.

You get a duplicate card from the nearest social security office, just as you get the original—the application blank asks whether or not you have applied for a card previously.

Buy union made goods and services.

Rhodes Urges in '51 'Educate-Organize'

Atlanta. — J. Lew Rhodes, AFL southern director of organization, urged in a New Year statement that "Educate and Organize" might be the slogan for 1951.

He said the goal would be "to carry to the workers, both organized and unorganized, the necessary information to keep them on a sound, solid basis in order to offset the avalanche of untrue, unfair and unjustifiable propaganda disseminated by our enemies."

"Organized labor, as such, is a part of all communities," Mr. Rhodes said. "It is a power for good in areas where the organized labor movement exists. No greater force has ever been devised for the preservation of the freedom of the people than the American labor movement.

"The American Federation of Labor has long fought subversive, totalitarian movements in this country.

"In 1951 the American labor movement faces a new kind of crisis at home, a crisis whereby those unfriendly to the workingman's aims and purposes have deluged the country with anti-labor propaganda until the entire labor movement exists at home is one which may determine whether or not there will be a free trade union movement in America.

"Anti-labor legislation may eliminate our free existence. Unfair employers have poured into the channels of education through unfriendly newspapers, columnists in newspapers and commentators on radios, infiltration of so-called educational material into public schools, and in devious other means, attempted to undermine the American labor movement through the unsuspecting."

Be independent—buy Independence Bonds.

Klenert Tells ILO Of Textile Gains

Lyons, France.—Lloyd Klenert, secretary-treasurer AFL United Textile Workers, told the meeting of the textile committee of the International Labor Organization that the economic health of the American textile worker and industry has improved greatly in the past few years.

He reported that textile productivity has increased, safety work has grown, and that the UTW-AFL finds that American textile labor has a real stake in the expansion of foreign trade and textiles.

Mr. Klenert represented U. S. labor at the conference by appointment of President Truman along with International Representative William Kennedy.

He will report to the UTW executive board meeting in Washington Jan. 13-14.

The ILO Textile Committee concluded that positive action is needed to raise living standards of textile workers in underdeveloped countries and to safeguard and improve the living standards of the workers in economically more advanced countries.

The committee recommended that the ILO send teams of experts to those underdeveloped, textile-producing countries requesting such assistance, to study and advise on improving living standards of textile workers.

PLAN BOMB SHELTER

Philadelphia.—The AFL Upholsterers Union has announced plans for a $100,000 bomb shelter for its national office here.

Labor ON THE AIR

FRANK EDWARDS — News Commentator, Mutual Broadcasting System (MBS) Nightly. Monday through Friday — 10 p.m. EST.

AMERICA UNITED—Forum. National Broadcasting Company (NBC) Sunday, 12 noon EST.

CROSS SECTION USA — Interview. Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS) Saturday. 4:30 p.m. EST.

Listen to these programs in which the American Federation of Labor participates. Consult your local newspaper for exact date and time when these programs are carried by your local stations. Urge your local station to carry these programs.

Good Radio Listening!

LABOR'S NOT IN PICTURE.—Washington.—This photo speaks eloquently for labor's argument that President Truman is ignoring its advice and leadership in defense policy making. This is Mr. Truman's new defense mobilization team. L. to r., Gen. Lucius Clay, Defense Production Administrator Charles E. Wilson and Sidney Weinberg. Clay and Weinberg are Wilson's assistants. No labor spokesmen have been named.

Uncle Sam Needs Labor's Expert Help For 10-20 Year Fight Against Commies

Washington.—Because Moscow's war against the free world may last 10 or even 20 years—

Because we face a long period of sacrifice and hard work on the home front—

It is essential that we organize our effort so that those free and voluntary institutions which are our greatest strength may be preserved and may serve us now.

Thus the AFL Labor's Monthly Survey pinpoints the problem of making full use of our organized labor and other voluntary movements in this country for however long it is necessary to remain mobilized to defeat communist aggression.

The discussion is in the current issue of the Survey which appeared just before President Truman's State of the Union message and in advance of the government conference with labor and industry leaders on wage stabilization.

The Survey said in part:

The dynamic quality of our economy which has its roots in free alert citizens has made America the most productive country in the world. This will be our basic weapon in fighting an enemy that hopes to force its tyrannical controls on all nations, and to eliminate self-government throughout the world. The people know how grave the situation is. If labor, management and farmers are consulted and given the facts to make clear their duties and responsibilities, they will do their part.

A self-governing country cannot mobilize its full powers without voluntary organization through which to channel the joint efforts of its free citizens who are responsible for economic life—whether they are management, labor, farmers, bankers or consumers.

We are fortunate that dependable voluntary organizations already exist in these groups; it remains only to coordinate them under the Defense Administration so that a united effort will result—to get out defense equipment with all speed and to maintain the life and welfare of our nation.

Such coordination can easily be accomplished, as AFL President Green has suggested. He proposes that defense authorities create a few joint committees composed of representatives from management, labor, farm and other organizations. Each of these committees be responsible (1) to cooperate in formulating defense policies, (2) to mobilize full membership for compliance and maximum effort.

By providing for such joint committees at national, industry and plant levels and by arranging for periodic meetings with factual information on developments and reports on compliance, this voluntary organization could become the basic force for effective action on the home front in the years ahead. Free men will find the best way when they have the facts before them and an organization through which they can participate.

So far the administration has failed to make full use of organized labor's advice, experience and willingness to help.

WIN 6½ PERCENT RAISE

Philadelphia.—Three months of negotiations have ended in a 6½ percent raise and establishment of a retirement fund for 12,000 workers in Philadelphia's dress industry.

The agreement was announced by Samuel Otto, manager of the Philadelphia Dress Joint Board of the AFL International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union.

Its terms provide the percentage boost for all piece workers, a $3 weekly increase for week workers and a $5 weekly increase for cutters. The manufacturers agreed to maintain the retiremgnt fund with a payment of 1½ percent of their weekly payrolls.

Keenan Picked As 'Consultant'

Washington.—That labor voice in the National Production Authority is not going to be at the operation or policy-making level but as "consultant."

NPA Administrator William H. Harrison appointed Joseph Keenan of the AFL and Ted Silvey of the CIO "as special consultants to advise in the selecting of staff personnel."

Mr. Keenan served as vice chairman of the War Production Board during World War II and after the war was labor advisor to Gen. Lucius D. Clay, military governor of Germany. He continues as director of Labor's League for Political Education.

Green Asks Support For March of Dimes

Washington.—AFL President William Green urged the 8 million members to support the 1951 March of Dimes Jan. 15-31. He said that "the American public cannot afford to relax its vigil against the dreadful toll of this disease."

In a message to Basil O'Connor, president of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, Mr. Green asserted that the membership of the AFL is keenly aware of the havoc wrought by the 1950 polio epidemic, second worst in the nation's history.

"We appreciate the excellent services of the Labor Service Division and the local chapters of the National Foundation," he wrote. "Our members and their families stricken with polio are the chief beneficiaries of your program."

In his appeal, Mr. Green referred to the recent announcement by Mr. O'Connor that the 1951 March of Dimes must raise at least $50,000,000 to meet the current staggering costs of polio patient care—the result of 3 consecutive years of record-breaking polio epidemics.

"I endorse, both personally and on behalf of the American Federation of Labor, the 1951 March of Dimes campaign. I am sure that every one of our unions' members will contribute to this splendid cause," Mr. Green said.

Labor Battles Wage Controls As U. S. Stabilization Flops

Washington. — The government's stabilization program is a flop.

Furthermore, it can't be made to work under the "cruelly deceptive" Defense Production Act of 1950.

Certainly no wage controls can be imposed or will be acceptable until the act is amended to provide for an overall system of anti-inflation controls simultaneously imposed on the basis of equality of sacrifice.

Even then wage controls will be acceptable only if administered by a Wage Stabilization Board including labor representatives with full independent power to make decisions and settle disputes.

This situation was set forth by the United Labor Policy Committee in a 20-page statement to the Wage Stabilization Board and in a conference with Defense Mobilization Administrator Charles E. Wilson.

Spokesmen for the committee were co-chairmen: AFL Vice President George M. Harrison acting for President William Green; CIO President Philip Murray, Machinist President Al Hayes, Railway Labor Executives President George E. Leighty.

The committee requested Mr. Wilson to utilize labor representatives at all policy and operational levels in the defense effort.

To the Wage Stabilization Board, the committee said in part:

"The American people had the right to hope that Congress would not repeat the mistakes of World War II. But the Defense Production Act of 1950, which they hoped would create a workable stabilization system, is fatally deceptive.

"While ample power is provided to control wages and salaries, the rising cost of living cannot be effectively checked. Despite the best intentions of the stabilization administrators, Congress has tied their hands.

"The glaring inadequacies of the act have been pointed out in previous public statements by members of this committee.

"Suffice it must be abundantly clear that the Defense Production Act can not stop the cost of living from spiralling still further.

"No power is provided to hold down effectively the price of foods.

"No power is provided to halt speculation in the commodity markets.

"No power is provided by the act, or by other legislation, to hold down rents effectively.

"Power to prohibit hidden price rises through lowered quality standards is inadequate.

"The Defense Production Act clearly fails as a price stabilizing instrument. And it is clear that appeals for 'voluntary" price controls have already failed; exhortations are meaningless without enforcement powers and penalties.

"We have addressed ourselves at some length to this matter because it must be made abundantly clear that wage and salary stabilization can not be imposed on the American people if living costs are not controlled and profiteering continues. Justice and equity must govern the nation's course of action.

"A successful wage stabilization policy must recognize that collective bargaining is itself a stabilizing influence on the economy both in peacetime and in time of national emergency.

"In view of its invaluable stabilizing role, collective bargaining must continue to be the primary means by which working standards are established and administered. Wage stabilization should supplement — but never supplant—the collective bargaining process."

The committee said that the Taft-Hartley Act has impeded the labor-management stability established by collective bargaining.

"If this act remains on the statute books, it can only continue to create discord and disputes and further impede labor-management efforts to achieve stability," the committee said. "It is fundamental, therefore, to industrial stability and hence to a sound wage stabilization policy that the Taft-Hartley Act be repealed."

The committee then discussed in detail the standards for a wage stabilization program permitting pay increases to compensate for higher living costs, annual increases for increased productivity, correction of inequities and substandards, and fringe benefits such as pensions, health and welfare and insurance funds.

HANDLE TRUMAN PROGRAM.—Washington.—These are the Democratic congressional leaders charged with getting President Truman's 10-point legislative program through the 82d Congress. L. to r., Senate Leader Ernest W. McFarland, Ariz., with a better than average voting record; Senate Whip Lyndon Johnson, Tex., with two "wrong" votes on Taft-Hartley but four "right" on foreign affairs; President Truman; House Whip J. Percy Priest, Tenn., and House Leader John W. McCormack, Mass., with excellent records in the 81st Congress.

United Labor Policy Committee Calls Truman Message Effective U. S. Course

Washington. — The United Labor Policy Committee called President Truman's State of the Union message to Congress "an honorable and effective course for our United States" to meet the "totalitarian threat" of communism against American democratic institutions.

Composed of the top officials of the AFL, CIO, Railway Brotherhoods and International Association of Machinists, the committee said:

"Organized labor in America endorses the President's warning that the threat to our democratic institutions 'is a total threat, and the danger is a common danger.' On behalf of millions of union members, the United Labor Policy Committee recognizes the need for national unity in time of crisis, and we pledge that our efforts will be directed vigorously and continuously to the welfare of all the people of this country.

"Union members, who have always recognized that America's problems and destiny are closely bound to those of all humanity, will be gratified by the President's masterly analysis of the dangers of narrow-minded isolationism. The false dogma of knifing our friends and befriending our enemies, which is the inevitable end-product of the isolationist philosophy, will be totally rejected by right-thinking citizens. There is no other road to world peace, and stability will not be attained by adopting the appeasement policies of defeatists.

"The President's State of the Union message charts an honorable and effective course for our United States. We urge the Congress to accept its word and spirit; and we urge all Americans to work together, in the spirit of equality and sacrifice, in order to overcome the threat of Soviet imperialism to our democratic institutions."

Labor Proposes Wage Standards

Washington.— The United Labor Policy Committee proposed broad general standards for a wage stabilization program when and if the government establishes an effective over-all anti-inflation system based on equality of sacrifice.

Here are the standards submitted to the Wage Stabilization Board:

1. Inequities which exist on the date the wage stabilization starts should be recognized and allowed to be corrected.

2. Wage adjustments to compensate for increases in the cost of living should be allowed. Such adjustments only reflect the penalty they do not cause inflation. They will be unnecessary if and when the price line is held.

3. Provisions in collective bargaining contracts for scheduled future wage adjustments should be honored. The wage stabilization program should allow adjustments based on industrial progress and increased productivity.

4. Inequities within an industry, company, or area, or between industries or similar jobs should be corrected through collective bargaining without prejudgment by this board.

5. Wage adjustments resulting from promotions, reclassifications, merit increases and other intra-plant practices and procedures involve many complications beyond the ability of any governmental agency to handle. Such adjustments require prompt, careful and realistic action and, therefore, their administration should be left to the collective processes of bargaining. The board should confine its activities in this area to broad general checks against abuse.

7. Health, welfare, retirement and other benefit plans are not methods of current compensation. They do not add to current consumer demand. Costs or payments in connection with such plans should not be considered as a part of the wage rate and are, therefore, not properly subject to wage controls of any type.

Mexico Parley Sets Back Reds

(Special Correspondence to AFL News Service)

Mexico City—The formation of a Western Hemisphere regional branch of the International Confederation of Free Trades Unions dealt a further blow to the diminishing Latin-American influence of the communist-dominated World Federation of Trade Unions.

The organization was set up at meetings begun here Jan. 8 attended by a 17-man delegation from the American Federation of Labor, Congress of Industrial Organizations and United Mine Workers from the United States.

J. H. Oldenbroek, general secretary of the ICFTU, told reporters that, though WFTU strength is hard to calculate exactly, "there's no doubt about its losing strength outside the Iron Curtain."

Formation of semi-autonomous ICFTU regions, Mr. Oldenbroek said, accented its difference from the WFTU.

"The WFTU is highly centralized, with practically all decisions coming from one source, they build from the top; we're building from the bottom," he said.

Shortly before the conference opened, Mr. Oldenbroek announced the affiliation of a key Latin American group — the 1,250,000-member Mexican Confederation of Labor (CTM). The CTM was one of the few large noncommunist labor federations which had been a holdout from the ICFTU.

Sir Vincent Tewson, general secretary of the British Trades Union Congress, brought greetings to the conferences from 8 million unionists in Great Britain. President Miguel Aleman of Mexico gave a short welcoming address to the delegates.

AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany, speaking for the United States delegation at the opening of the meeting, told the 280 delegates representing 21 million workers, that the wage earners of North, South and Central America must work more closely together than ever before.

The AFL has helped to lay the foundation not only for ICFTU but also for a Latin American branch, Mr. Meany pointed out. "We have been among the earliest advocates of an international organization of labor," he said.

"This was the main reason for the organization, 3 years ago in Lima, Peru, of the Inter-American Confederation of Workers (CIT), which is now solidly represented at this great convention. We now hope, through the establishment of a regional branch of the ICFTU at this meeting, to expand the work started by the CIT and to achieve even greater effectiveness and unity by joining forces with all other democratic trade unions of the New World."

AFL Will Stay in Fight for FEPC Until Won, Green Tells Detroiters

Detroit.— AFL President William Green told the AFL Institute on Civil Rights and Race Relations of the Detroit and Wayne County Federation of Labor that the AFL is in the fight for a permanent Fair Employment Practices Commission until it's won.

"We have carried the fight to Congress year after year," Mr. Green said of FEPC and other civil rights legislation. "And let me serve notice here that when the AFL enters a battle for vital principles such as this we will never stop until we have won."

Mr. Green said that "the father of the American Federation of Labor was an immigrant Jew—Samuel Gompers"—and that "the American Federation of Labor derived its name from the recommendation of a negro delegate from Pittsburgh."

"The American Federation of Labor came into being with an obligation to take and hold the lead in the fight for equal justice and against discrimination," he said. "We have not failed in this obligation.

"The basic drive of the AFL has always been to bring the benefits of organization to all workers, regardless of race, color, religion or national origin. For 70 years it has struggled to educate all workers—whether they be black or white, Protestant, Catholic or Jew, male or female, first or second or whatever generation—that they must stand solidly united as trade unionists."

Praising the Detroit and Wayne County Institute, Mr. Green said it is always gratifying to see a section of organized labor take the initiative in the fight against intolerance.

Canada Favors Dominion Price Board As Effective Method of Control

Ottawa, Canada.—The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada is urging that prices should be negotiated as wages are.

Congress President Percy R. Bengough, in a 1951 statement, said that "if the employer wants to raise his price, let him show cause."

The proposal was made as the upward swing of prices and the cost of living showed no signs of slackening. Every price increase brings an accompanying cut in the standard of living for almost every family in Canada, Mr. Bengough said. He pointed out:

"Prices are free to change at the discretion of the employer. Wages are already controlled. They are controlled in many ways. Wages have to be asked for. The employer can refuse an increase. That is a very effective control to start with. Wages must be negotiated. But experience teaches that such negotiations may continue for a long time. Again control. After negotiation comes conciliation and another long wait.

"The Trades and Labor Congress of Canada has been asking that prices should be negotiated as wages are. If the employer wants to raise his price, let him show cause.

"The railways have to show the Transport Board that they need an increase in freight rates before they can raise their rates. Power companies, telephone companies and the like also have to show a board set up for the purpose that they need the increase before they are allowed to charge higher rates.

"I believe that all employers should have to do the same thing. Such a board should be representative of the affected groups in the country. Labor should be represented, and so should the farmers who in so many cases are caught between fixed contract selling prices and rising costs in almost exactly the same way as workers."

Paper Makers Gain $18 Million in Year

Albany, N. Y.—The AFL Brotherhood of Paper Makers won an $18 million a year increase in wages in 1950 in 650 contract negotiations.

In only 10 instances was this experienced AFL union forced to strike to obtain a satisfactory settlement.

Research Director Bart L. Tidland announced that this 98.5 percent record of agreements peacefully concluded gained an increase in annual wages of an estimated $18 million for 62,000 Paper Makers.

The union signed 333 contracts in regular contract negotiations and reopened virtually every contract in the fall for second-round wage increases designed to meet the spurting cost of living.

Mr. Tidland reported that every Paper Maker contract included provisions for paid vacations and 98 percent provided holidays with pay.

The Paper Makers have twice been cited by the National Planning Association in its series of case studies on the causes of industrial peace. They were hailed in studies of management-labor relations at Pacific Coast pulp mills and of the Marathon Corp. of Wisconsin. Negotiations have been conducted on the Pacific Coast for 17 years and with the Marathon Corp. for 13 years without strikes or lockouts.

MR. PRESIDENT.—Washington.—Screen, radio and stage star Edward Arnold, executive board member of the AFL Screen Actors Guild, calls at the White House to discuss Savings Bond campaign with President Truman. Mr. Arnold, who appears on radio in the "Mr. President" series, invited Mr. Truman to see the play in which he is currently touring, "Apple of His Eye." Mr. Truman attended.

Truman Lauds Green's Services

By ARNOLD BEICHMAN
AFL Staff Correspondent

New York.—From all corners of the world where men are still free, and from his countrymen, from fellow officers of the American Federation of Labor and from everyday trade unionists, there came words of praise in honor of President William Green on the occasion of a testimonial dinner for him tendered by the American Trade Union Council for Histadrut, the Israeli Federation of Labor.

There was a letter from President Truman, read by his personal representative, which lauded Mr. Green's "great contributions in improving the way of life of millions of wage earners."

From the youngest democracy in the world, Israel, came messages by President Chaim Weizmann and Prime Minister David Bengurion, lauding his service to freedom and free trade unionism.

From Justice William O. Douglas of the U. S. Supreme Court, from Secretary of Labor Tobin, from the leaders of the free trade union movements of Canada, France, Holland and from the AFL men and women, who were among the thousands to attend the dinner Jan. 11 at the Waldorf-Astoria came heartfelt tributes to the man who has led the AFL for more than a quarter of a century.

And when after all the speeches were in and the telegrams of greeting had been read, Histadrut introduced to an audience which rose to its feet and cheered and applauded for long minutes. Mr. Green's address, Mr. Green struck a theme which brought home to an audience, strongly related to the free trade union movement of Israel, the meaning of this new state in Asia.

"It is my fervent hope that the people of Israel," he said, "can establish in Palestine an American of the Middle East, that they can carve out and desert a progressive, prosperous nation whose high standards and honest practices will serve as an inspiration to all the millions of oppressed, downtrodden and subjugated peoples of the world."

He praised the achievements of Histadrut and declared the AFL was proud of "its close fraternal ties" with Histadrut.

"Histadrut," he said, "has brought order out of potential chaos, without compromising its democratic principles. It has inspired the free world by demonstrating a vivid and practical way that security, welfare and social and economic progress can best be achieved in an environment of freedom and democracy. We have gloried in its victories as though they were our victories. We have watched its progress as though it were our own.

"Histadrut has been the mainstay of the entire society of Israel. As a democratic institution of workers it has been ultimately concerned with the social and cultural life of the country, as well as the economic welfare of workers."

But though Mr. Green's speech was devoted solely to Israel's trade union movement and its 330,000 members, Mr. Green also outlined the general policy towards development of the Middle and Near East areas. Speaking of the AFL's Foreign Relations Committee, he listed this policy as:

1. Creation of a Middle Eastern Defense and Prosperity Bloc, consisting of Arab peoples, Iraq, Turkey and Israel.

2. The U. S. to provide this defense bloc with adequate economic and military aid.

3. The Arab nation to accept the Republic of Israel as an accomplished fact and recognize it on a de facto basis.

4. U. S., Britain and France to guarantee the territorial boundaries of Israel.

5. All western nations to drop all unequal treaties and treatment of any member of this Middle East Defense Bloc wherever such unequal treaties or treatment may still exist.

Mr. Woll lauded President Green "as a key figure in establishing the perimeter of democratic strength the circles the globe." He compared the AFL president with Samuel Gompers, the AFL's first chieftain, but added that "William Green has distinguished a leader, has achieved too much in his lifetime, to remain in anyone's shade."

"He moves in the clear sunlight of his own convictions," he said, "his own purposes, his own passionate determination to make our nation and the world a better place, to extend the range of economic security and religious and political liberty."

During the after-dinner program, Honorary President Max Zaritsky of the United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers Union announced that the American Trade Union Council for Israel intended to establish an appropriate institution in Israel to be named after William Green and the American Federation of Labor on funds to be raised from AFL organizations. Earlier, Dr. Joseph Burstein, delegate of Histadrut, who spoke in Hebrew, presented a bronze statuette titled "The Israel Pioneer" to President Green.

Dr. John Steelman, assistant to President Truman, told the audience that Mr. Green had "been a valiant leader in the war organized labor has waged on communism" and as a result "our trade union movement has been purged of the Red menace." He recommended that a way to combat communism abroad would be through a letter-writing campaign by American workers with relatives and friends in Europe. American workers "can make clear to [illegible] seeking to emulate or exploit [illegible] people," he said, "that all we want [illegible]ace with freedom for all peoples [illegible] want it."

"Such direc[illegible] messages from workers would go far in building up confidence in the sincerity of our purpose and in exposing propaganda directed against us on that score," Dr. Steelman said.

GREEN RECEIVES HONOR.—New York.—AFL President William Green receives bronz statuette, "The Israel Pioneer," from Dr. Joseph Burstein, special representative of Histadrut, Israel Labor Federation, as Max Zaritsky (left), honorary president AFL United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers, and Joseph Schlossberg (right), chairman National Committee for Labor Israel, look on. Presentation took place at testimonial dinner given Mr. Green by Histadrut.

Two Presidents Praise Green

New York.—Presidents of the United States and Israel praised AFL President William Green for his services to the world in messages to the dinner held in Mr. Green's honor by Histadrut, Israel Labor Federation.

Here are some extracts from messages received by Mr. Green:

President Truman: You may well be proud that so many of your fellow Americans are gathered to pay tribute to you for your great contributions in improving the way of life of millions of wage earners. Those workers owe you much for the services you have rendered your nation in times of peace and in times of war over more than a quarter century. I wish you many more years of activity in the interest of those you have represented so ably and patriotically.

President Weizmann of Israel: On innumerable occasions during our long struggle for free immigration into our homeland and for political independence President Green valiantly championed our cause, bringing to bear the influence of millions of American workers.

U. S. Supreme Court Justice Douglas: William Green has long articulate the aspirations of millions who cannot speak for themselves.

Secretary of Labor Tobin: So long as we have men like William Green, labor statesmanship will continue to be a fact of tremendous significance in the life of America.

Leon Jouhaux, head of the French free trade union movement: I share completely the sentiments which animate the free trade unionists of the world in regard to this labor leader who has devoted his efforts to the improvement of the workers' lot and to the struggle for the rights of man and justice, which are the indispensable foundations of peace—our common aim.

H. Oosterhuis, president Netherlands Federation of Trade Unions: We are fully aware of the significance of your achievements, not only nationally, but also—and it gives me pleasure to say it, in the international field.

'Join Us,' Green Urges Unorganized

Detroit.— AFL President William Green said the aim of the AFL "is the organization of the unorganized, so that workers everywhere can attain and secure higher living standards."

Speaking to the Detroit and Wayne County Federation of Labor, Mr. Green said:

"Unorganized workers are workers without the right of franchise in economic life—incapable of taking part in and enjoying the benefits of that system of economic democracy which we are trying to expand and improve in this country.

"Workers who are denied trade union membership, or who fail to seek it, are as helpless and impotent in our economic life as those who are denied, or fail to use, the right to vote are in or political life."

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